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YORK FREE PRESS

York's Community Newspaper

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Inside the bunker

THIS MONTH YORK FREE PRESS PUBLISHES THE INSIDE STORY OF THE CIVIL DEFENCE BUNKER AT SHIPTON.

IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WE SPEAK TO A MAN WORKING ON THE CURRENT EXTENSION TO THIS SECRET HOME OF EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT.

THE BUNKER AT SHIPTON IS ONE OF THE 17 SUB-REGIONAL HEAD-QUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL RUN THE REMAINS OF BRITAIN AFTER A NUCLEAR WAR.

THIS IS THE FIRST INTERVIEW EVER PUBLISHED WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS WORKED INSIDE ONE OF THE SECRET BUNKERS.



Inside this seemingly innocent bungalow in New Parks, near Shipton, is the entrance to a secret bunker which will be used in the event of nuclear war or "civil unrest". To find out more see page 11 of this issue.

"SAVE BUSES" CAMPAIGN BEGINS

Busmen will burn the new fare books in Exhibition Square, threatened Ray Hill, secretary of the "Save York Buses Campaign". Mr Hill made his announcement during the campaign's first public meeting on 17th September. During the meeting it was stated that West Yorkshire's recently announced fare increases would "bring disaster" to York's buses. Busmen's and resident's fears are borne out as more services are cut including the ending of the Elm Bank/South Bank No. 3 service and the cutting of the frequency of the No.2 and No.4 routes. Full story on page 2.

ALEX LYON INTERVIEWED

The first of a two-part interview in which York's Labour M.P. answers questions put to him by York Free Press. In part one, Mr Lyon defines his role as a member of Parliament for York as well as explaining his views on local issues like tourism, housing and the buses.

Part two - next month - for his views on some of the national issues.

PART ONE - PAGE 8

INSIDE

York Buses Fight back

York will have 25 of its fleet of 80 buses taken off the road as part of the cuts in services being proposed, the standing room only meeting of over 200 people in the De Grey Rooms, was told. Speakers emphasised that staff and passengers had to work together if they wanted any semblance of a bus service to remain.

Two busmen from Sheffield told how the buses in South Yorkshire were run as a social service, by means of a subsidy from the rates. The result of this being a 7p for a 3 mile journey, an idea approved by the audience. Councillors Rodney Hills and Les Marsh, speaking for the Labour and Liberal parties respectively, claimed that the implication of this was a 50p rise in the rates which they would support, "if you the people of York wanted it." Unfortunately for the meeting these two spent a great deal of the rest of the meeting scoring political points off each other, on such vital issues as who first mooted the idea for a York bus station.

However for the majority of the people present the vital question was how to ensure a reliable bus service, both from the point of view of passengers being late for work or school, and the crews who had to cope with public discontent for events they had no control over.

A long and healthy discussion took place on the nature of crew/passenger relationships. Complaints of ill treatment on buses from the audience brought accusations of abusive passengers from the crews, many in uniform, ranged around the back. Nonetheless it was agreed that efforts must be made to improve the situation, since no campaign could succeed without their support. Ray Hill, the secretary of the campaign and an official of the buses T&G branch, said the time must come, "when a busman is no longer ashamed to wear his uniform when off duty."

How the campaign should progress from this point onwards brought suggestions from the councillors that pressure should be "brought to bear" on North Yorkshire County Council to increase financial support and the City Council to exercise greater control over what was

after all a joint undertaking. On a more immediate level a contribution from the floor suggested that the imminent threat of a third fare rise should be met by a crew/passenger refusal to accept it. Speaking on behalf of the Save York Buses Campaign George Pogmore and Ray Hill put the main emphasis on the setting up of local groups of the campaign, as an essential element in its success.

The campaign can be contacted at 55 Toft Green.

YORK FREE PRESS COMMENT

The most immediate threat to York's buses is the October fare increase. As was generally agreed in the meeting, each rise looses passengers and further boosts the bus company's case for cuts. The refusal by crews and passengers to accept these would provide an excellent opportunity for united action, as well as making an immediate impact on those who make the decisions.

A few years ago a campaign against increases on London's underground produced a scheme whereby travellers paid the old fare and handed a strip of paper to ticket collectors, produced by the campaign. This stated their name and address on it and the remainder of the fare to be paid, which it was then up to London Transport to collect.

Similarly such a scheme could be operated on York's buses where at present a conductor will take a passenger's name and address if they are unable to pay the fare, and then issue a ticket. Thus if successful the bus company would be presented at the end of each day by masses of slips of paper, part of the fares collected. Which would cost them as much to collect as they are worth.

We leave the rest to your imagination... York Free Press makes this as a suggestion for the Save York Buses Campaign.

JOBLESS?

Five thousand without work in York! That's what August's figures showed as the city's contribution to Maggie's two million. Only 161 vacancies in the Job Centre compared with 1000+ this time last year. And that's if you can get past the 'vetting procedure' and get an interview. Suspicions are that this total includes the 150 jobs on the sugar beat campaign.

In the last month Redfearn's have announced 200 redundancies locally (20% of the workforce), whilst the recent announcement by Rowntree's of halved profits, brings home the way the recession is biting York. Hardly a case of high wages losing jobs, the latter hardly being noted for their "excessive" wage settlements. It's just that unemployed lorry drivers can't afford to buy Yorkie Bars. Look what happened at Cadbury's this summer: they laid off 200 people.

Of course our glorious leader is concerned about the effect on school leavers. For York's 900 young people without a means to a decent life, there are all of 7 vacancies on the Youth Opportunities Programme.

All this anger has a purpose though. Firstly to alert you to a picket of the Tory Party conference in Brighton on October 10th. An expression of anger at what the bastards are doing to us all, and to welcome the Right to Work March which will have walked from South Wales. Two lads from York are on the march which began on September 23rd in Port Talbot. Along the way they will be visiting factories to agitate for a better deal for the unemployed. Supported by 100's of trade union branches, the march is being helped along the way by local Labour Parties and trade unions.

Details of the transport from York to Brighton are available from Socialist Worker sellers in Coney St.

Beyond that some people in York, recognising the fact of long term unemployment for many, are exploring the possibilities of organising some kind of unemployed workers union, along the lines of a similar movement in the thirties. Already similar moves are being made in other parts of the country; for instance an unemployed workers centre in Newcastle. In York the basis of it would be around welfare rights, social activities (its very boring on the dole...), as well as more political activities. Those interested can get in touch via York Free Press.

Kids fight for playground

Faced with a determined occupation by local children, Council plans to demolish Chaplefields Adventure Playground were abandoned at the beginning of September - at least for the time being.

But as we go to press, the fate of the adventure playground still hangs in the balance following North Yorkshire County Council's decision earlier in the year not to continue funding the playground after the summer holidays. As we reported in the last issue of YFP local parents and children were strongly opposed to this decision and have been campaigning for the City Council to take over the running costs of the playground.

Their campaign has produced a lot of favourable publicity in the local press and on TV. They have gathered nearly 1,000 signatures with a petition, lobb-

ied councillors, and organised a demonstration to the September meeting of the Council's Recreation and Amenities Committee. The height of the campaign so far was the successful occupation of the playground by local children to prevent Council workmen removing the play equipment.

In the face of such strong local backing for the playground, the



City Council have been forced to pledge their support in "principle" in keeping the playground open. But so far they have not agreed to cover the running costs of the playground, particularly the cost of employing a playleader. Instead they have called a public meeting for October 7th to consult local people - something they should have done when the County Council first threatened to close the playground. And it may be that they are hoping to delay making a final decision on the playground's fate until local support has been worn down.

Councillor Octoby the much loved chairman of the Recreation and Amenities Committee, has made it clear that he would rather see an ordinary playground with just swings and slides at Chaplefields and the Conservative on the Council will almost certainly try to slip this idea through if possible.

Alternatively the Council may try to exploit the offer by local parents to raise money to help cover the running costs of the playground. Experience elsewhere in the country has shown that the playground will only be a success if the Council provides a secure income to cover the basic running costs. Local fundraising can then be used to pay for extras such as coach outings and campaign weekends. As it is the playground needs a chance to recover from the years of financial neglect and lack of interest shown by North Yorkshire County Council, so let's hope the Council gives the adventure playground the backing it needs.

York T.U.C.

The most interesting part of the last Trades Council meeting was a talk given by a member of the Co-op Union on Co-operatives. He showed how workers could manage and own their own companies and outlined some of the problems they face. He thought some of the newer co-ops in York, such as Cycleworks, Open Road Printing Co-op, and York Community Bookshop, were nearer to co-operative ideals than older co-ops where there is a 'boss' who makes all the decisions. In the newer co-ops everyone takes part in decision making. The report produced an interesting discussion on what the best way is to allocate work. Can you rotate accounts every week for instance?

Otherwise the Trades Council went through the routine listing of reports received from the TUC, the Campaign for Economic Advance (which has advanced everywhere), etc., etc....

The TUC circular on Industrial Tribunals warned that the Government may introduce changes which will allow costs to be awarded against trade unionists appealing to them. These changes will be introduced to discourage workers from using the Tribunals.

It was agreed to call for a boycott of 'Red Coach Lettuce'. In California the farm owners have murdered and intimidated

members of the American United Farm Workers Union who were campaigning for better wages and conditions. The UFW organised a boycott successfully in the USA, so the producers are now hoping to sell in Europe. So if you see boxes of lettuce which have stamps saying produce of USA/California, boycott them!

From Munster, York's twin city in Germany, came a letter asking for the support of the Trades Council in the case of a teacher who had lost his job because of his political beliefs - an example of the use of the system of 'Berufsuerbot'. This was agreed.

The Trades Council also supported a petition from the National League for the Blind calling for benefits to be paid to all blind people. The blind are feeling particularly hurt and harrassed as more social service cuts are made on orders from the government.

Last but not least, there was an important discussion on the bus campaign following a speech by the secretary of one of the Transport & General Workers Union bus branches. He outlined how cuts would ruin services. Already there has been a cut in the service on Burton Stone Lane with no buses after 6pm, and further cuts are now threatened (see page 2 of this issue).



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Cuts Campaign Hots Up

How can we successfully build a campaign to stop the cuts? This was the question that faced those attending a meeting of the Trades Council Cuts Campaign the night after the "Save York Buses Meeting".

Over 40 people came to the meeting which was being held to discuss the future of the Cuts Campaign. Many of those were there for the first time and were able to contribute fresh ideas and information.

The Trades Council first set up the Cuts Campaign a year ago. Since then the Campaign has held a successful public meeting, put out thousands of leaflets attacking the cuts, and organised petitions and letter writing campaigns to councillors. Meetings of the Campaign have been open to anyone wanting to attend.

But so far the Campaign has not succeeded in bringing enough people or organisations together to successfully oppose the cuts. And Joanna De Groot, Trades Council Secretary, began the Campaign should go from now. She pointed out that many people had been persuaded by the Government that the cuts were necessary, or else did not see what could be done to stop them.

Many people at the meeting felt that there was still a need for basic information on the effects of cuts in public spending, and what was happening in different areas and services. An ambulance driver at the meeting said he thought the public would be shocked if they knew about the real state of the ambulance service - for instance there are only 3 ambulances on duty at night to cover York and surrounding towns, and often one of these is called away to Hull or Scarborough. A representative from the Save York Buses Campaign thought that the Cuts Campaign should concentrate on providing help for groups faced with cuts, for instance advice on writing leaflets or organising public meetings. Other people at the meeting thought that the Campaign should focus on one or two specific issues as the best way of building up the campaign and showing that the cuts could be opposed.



"this is a recorded message, due to cut-backs we are unable to send a fire-engine straight away but your address will be noted and be dealt with as soon as possible..."

Eventually it was decided that as its next step the Campaign would start producing a regular newsletter which could be distributed through union branches, at work, or door to door. The Labour Party offered to donate £25 towards the cost of the first issue and unions and supporters will be asked to make donations. Supporters of the Campaign were asked to phone through any information they had on cuts to the numbers below. It was also decided that the Campaign would now meet twice a month to plan further action. Meetings will take place on the first Thursday and third Tuesday of each month at the Co-op Rooms in Micklegate.

York Free Press will be distributing copies of the Cuts Campaign Newsletter in future issues of the paper.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE CUTS - HOW THEY ARE EFFECTING YOU, YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, OR PLACE OF WORK - PLEASE LET THE CAMPAIGN KNOW.

Tel. 34952 day or 29775

NO MILK

Readers will remember that the North Yorkshire County Council has stopped supplies of free school milk to Primary Schools. At Kingsway North Primary School 60 out of 300 children are still receiving milk on medical grounds. Now even this free supply is being attacked. An application for Burdyke school has been turned down flat. The reason given was one that could be used for destroying the rest of the welfare state: ie blaming people for their own problems and saying it was their own fault. The reply that came back was that "they should have a good Breakfast".

CENTRE OPENS

The Foxwood Lane Community Centre is open at last.

150 guests were invited to the official opening ceremony on September 22nd where the Lord Mayor duly declared the Centre open.

The guests were able to look round the newly converted Portakabin which is equipped with a large meeting room, several smaller rooms and a kitchen and toilets.

The Community Centre Management Committee, elected at a public meeting earlier in the year, say that the Centre will be used by a whole host of groups from the Single Parent Family group to a youth club run by local parents.

JOB OFFERED

Assistant Storeperson/Welfare Worker to work 30-35 hr. week, over a 5 day week. Person with social work background might be preferred, but not essential. Please send S.A.E. to:-12, Gillygate for job specification.

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WHOLEFOOD BAKERY

It'll all come out in the wash?

IDEAL SWEAT



SHOP

Mr. Scruton Is Not Concerned...

Each time a firm, any firm, claims to have made a profit it is always at the expense of its work force whose wellbeing is hardly ever considered. Therefore it is time to complain not precisely against 'profit' making. That in itself is acceptable. But rather against the conditions in which people have to work in this modern age, in the hope that we can solicit your help and support.

I, for instance, work in the Ideal Laundry where the heat from the machines, mixed with the steam becomes suffocating and there is no ventilation. The girls have to climb on to the roof on hot days and remove a large heavy solid lid, and, if injured, there is not compensation or benefit. There is not even an accident-book. There is no hand towels, no soap and no sanitary machines. If it rains the rain comes through on some of the machines and some are electrical. There is no adequate sick-room. The coffee machine is next to the toilet, which is inadequate for a workforce of twenty women. On top of all that the manager, like all other managers feels free to abuse us verbally whenever he thinks he has the right - to speak to us like dogs, conditioned to his beak and call. But we 'dogs' will have our day.....

I am not asking for a demonstration, a protest, or a working-class 'revolution' because I know you don't have the courage for that. All I am suggesting is that you are made aware of what you allow the company man to do to you and stand up for yourselves. The union men sit on the right hand of the bosses. But we cannot be bought or compromised by the cross they would like to shovel us. Sympathetic authorities such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau turn both a blind eye and a deaf ear and so it seems we must begin to meet our demands ourselves.

The Surrealists

The leaflet re-printed on this page recently came to the attention of York Free Press. It was produced by one of the women workers at the Ideal Laundry in Trinity Lane, Bishophill, who, sick of the appalling conditions decided that she had to get something written down.

However unless the workforce is united and has the backing of a union there is little chance of working conditions being changed.

trouble-maker?

As the passerby can see from the outside the Ideal Laundry looks far from ideal. The inside is not much better - damp, inadequate ventilation and unsafe working conditions.

The Ideal Laundry is not unique though, Laundry has a reputation for being badly paid and hard sweat with a small unionised workforce. Naturally with the high unemployment levels today workers at such a place are more wary than ever of causing a fuss and risking losing their jobs.

The woman worker handed these leaflets out at work and to people in town. Almost immediately a petition appeared at the laundry asking the workers there to sign if they didn't want to lose their jobs. And she was summoned in to see the boss. He went mad, swearing at her, telling her she was a trouble-maker and that she was going to get the place closed down the rate she was going. He warned her that she would be watched like a hawk in the future - and the very next day when she came in to work an hour late she got a letter threatening her with the sack.

A couple of very minor improvements were made as a result of the leaflet - toilet paper and soap appeared in the toilets. But that's all. So she decided to take some photographs to show just how bad the place was. Again the boss went mad and tried to confiscate the film, coming out with more threats and abuse.

Despite further harassment from the boss she continued to work at the Ideal Laundry. Then on Thursday September 11th she suddenly heard she was sacked.

She was told in writing that she was being sacked because her work was unsatisfactory. But her boss had already admitted to her that she was a good worker and that she was going because she was a trouble maker.

She is now in the process of claiming for unfair dismissal. By the time the next YFP comes out we hope to let you know how she has got on with her claim.

Letters

YFP, Box 2, 73 Walmgate, York.

We always like to receive your letters about any topic you may feel is worth bringing to peoples' attention in the pages of YFP. We also like to receive any comments you may have about the paper!

Lidgett Grove

Dear YFP,

Lidgett Grove Parents Action Group took a petition to County Hall on July 30th which with the 1600 signatures already presented, brought the total to well over 6000. During the meeting of NYCC it was announced that the Finance and Education Committees had reached an agreement and were prepared to urge the D.E.S. for permission to be granted for the project for a new ESN(S) Secondary School for York/North Selby. The Action Group is keeping a strict watch on the situation, as a great deal could go wrong, but pending a decision from the D.E.S. they are observing a truce.

The official line at County Hall concerning Yearslet Bridge A.T.C. is that press statements over lack of funds to open the centre are

wild rumours. However, the Director of Social Services hasn't denied saying what he was quoted as saying and it is quite in line with what many of us expected. There will undoubtedly be strong support for the parents of school leavers if their children are denied some reasonable provision. Thank you for your very useful help to date.

Vivien Wellburn for
Lidgett Grove Parents Action Group

Boring

Dear YFP,

Why is your paper so boring? I have been reading it for several years now, and although it occasionally has something of interest in it, it is mostly just dull dull dull!

sold 8 of the modules already, and hopes eventually to provide accommodation for 300.

Cheap cuts

A recent comment passed on to us from a school cook in York is that some schools are to change over to "convenience foods" in January. This means that instead of eating fresh vegetables your children will be eating packet foods in future. The reason for this is probably that packet foods take less people to prepare them so the authority can then make more kitchen assistants redundant.

Got what's Cummin...

A little chocolate birdie from inside Terry's tells me that the normal swashbuckling style of Liberal 'man of the people' Julian Cummins has been a little subdued of late. Having reached the starry heights of brand manager, Mr. Petition started pushing his weight around too much for some of his colleagues. The crunch came when he wrote a letter to a senior manager complaining that the computer department was dragging the company back into the 1940s. Instead of the immediate sackings that he was expecting Julian was told to watch his tongue or he himself would be out on his ear.

The trouble with you lefties is that you take things so seriously, and God help us if the likes of you ever came to power; we'd have all the press and TV as boring as YFP.

So try and pull your socks up before you send us all to sleep.

Yours sincerely,
D.Cooper

Women's Centre

The Women's centre has unfortunately had to close down. We hope to open soon in new premises. Meanwhile please phone us if you want information or want a pregnancy test. Are there any women who would like to be involved in setting up a new women's centre, or would like to be in a monthly consciousnessraising group?

Monthly meetings will continue on the first Wednesday of each month, so the next is on October 1st. Phone for details:-
Jan or Lesley 412060
Penny 59574
Dena 30939



Invest and Survive

£10,000 will be the price of surviving a nuclear holocaust. That's if plans to build a supercity of luxury nuclear fallout shelters near York gets the go-ahead. A Leeds businessman, Mike Noble, wants to build 48 family modules in the grounds of Ryther Hall, Ryther.

The modules would have all the essentials to survive a 6 week nuclear attack. While others are frying and disintegrating above ground, Mr Noble and his customers will be enjoying the use of video-cinema, a medical centre, life-support systems etc. There would even be arrangements for family pets. "We would provide an all-essential family community spirit," said Noble. He claims to have

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Two schools may be closed

Two York schools face the possibility of closure because of cutbacks in education spending.

The future of Fishergate Primary and Park Grove Secondary Modern schools hangs in the balance as the education authority considers plans to close them in the near future.

According to Mr. Hudson, the Chief Education Officer in York, the possibility of closing the two schools has arisen because of the big drop in children at school which will continue throughout the decade.

But when pressed by YFP Mr. Hudson admitted that the possible closure of the schools was closely linked to the cutbacks being made in spending on education.

Fishergate school is likely to be the first to go. The headmaster, Mr. Roberts, is retiring at the end of the school year and the education authority may decide not to replace him and close the school instead. A public meeting has

been called for October 22nd to discuss the future of the school with local parents.

The threat to Park Grove school may not be so immediate, but the governors have already discussed the possibility of closure, and this could even take place before comprehensive re-organisation.

Mr. Hudson stressed that no firm decision had yet been made about either school, and that there would be a "full process of consultation with all interested parties and the public before a decision is made". "That is what democracy is all about", he added.

Many teachers and parents have been hoping that the fall in numbers at schools would mean that real progress could at last be made towards reducing class sizes. But the government's public spending cuts mean that this will not happen - that is unless parents and teachers are prepared to fight for smaller classes and better facilities.

Where is it?

Where can this strange object be found in York? If you think you know the answer send it in to YFP on a postcard by October 31st.

The first correct entry to be drawn will win a prize of a free hit single or a year's subscription to YFP!



New threat to Nasira

In last month's YFP we described the Home Office's attempts to deport Nasira Begum, an Asian woman living in Manchester.

On July 30th Nasira's appeal against the deportation order was upheld and it at last looked like her long ordeal was over. But then the Home Office announced that it would not accept the decision of its own adjudicator and would appeal against it.

Now the "Friends of Nasira Begum" are having to re-launch their campaign against the Home Office. They say that "The decision on July 30th was a just decision. In challenging it the Home Office has dismissed the rights and feelings of Nasira and all those who have supported her."

The campaign is asking its supporters to write letters of protest to the Home Office and their M.P.s. They are also appealing for donations to replenish badly run down funds. Please send any donations to: "Friends of Nasira Begum", c/o 595 Stockport Road, Longsight.

Ration books

The following letter appeared in the August issue of Islington Gutter Press.

Dear Gutter Press,

Imagine your surprise on receiving your Social Security Order Book, only to find instead it's a food voucher ration book dated 1982!

Imagine even more surprise when you are promptly visited by the Police who demand the book back and make you sing the Official Secrets Act, undertaking to keep quiet about this DHSS boob.

Well this happened in London last month. And this claimant wasn't the only one...so better start laying in your supplies of food.

Yours, Polly State.

Good value!

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THE LYON INTERVIEW

How much do you know about your M.P.? This month we publish the first of a two part interview with York M.P. Alex Lyon. It is four years since we last carried an interview with him and a lot has happened, locally and nationally, since then.

He has a reputation as a political loner and a man who doesn't duck controversy. Born in Leeds in 1931 he was educated at West Leeds High School and London University. He became a barrister in 1954 and is now a part-time circuit judge. He joined the Labour Party when aged 19, and was Secretary of Leeds North West Constituency Party before becoming prospective candidate for York in 1962. He won the seat in 1966 and soon made his mark nationally as a high-flier on the right of the Labour Party. In 1969 he became Parliamentary Private Secretary to Roy Jenkins and a few months later to Harold Lever. He showed a keen interest in African affairs, and attempted to introduce reforms of the divorce laws and a citizen's right to privacy. From 1970-72 he was an opposition spokesman on foreign affairs and home affairs until sacked by Wilson in '72. In 1974 he became Minister of State at the Home Office until sacked again - this time by Callaghan - in '76. He said at the time: "I paid the price of trying to get justice for blacks in this country - Jim never has had much time for those who espoused that cause." Relations with his own party have had their ups and downs too - especially with the public disagreements over the EEC. Mr Lyon has always been very pro-Europe. He has also been a Methodist lay preacher for many years.

York is often said to be cushioned from the major fluctuations in the national economy, but the recent redundancies at Redfearn's coming just after those at Armstrong's paint a gloomy picture. What do you see as the economic prospects?

Well, I think it is true that we won't be hit as hard as most places unless the economy really collapses, in which case we could become as bad as Consett. However there is the additional problem that there are only about 5 or 6 big employers in York and if one of them were to go under or to be cut back severely the situation could very quickly become serious. Cadbury's for example have recently converted one of their main factories to micro-technology and if Rowntrees were to follow suit that could be disastrous.

How do you see your role as M.P. for York in these difficult times?

My primary task is to speak for my constituents. I can do this by helping or representing people individually and by speaking for the constituency as a group. Some of my parliamentary colleagues see the work of dealing with individual problems as a necessary evil, but I believe it's essential. My experience as a lawyer undoubtedly means that I can get a higher success rate with individual grievances than is usual in other constituencies, although the fact that I know the law so well means that I am dissuaded from pushing on an issue too.

In terms of speaking for the constituency as a whole, York is a perfect place. It is one community cut off by 30 miles of countryside. There is a lot of community pride and the M.P. is recognised as a distinctive figure to whom people can take their specifically political grievances. I have been able to speak for the whole city on certain issues such as when we were campaigning to get the National Railway Museum in York.



That is one reason why I am so totally opposed to this scheme by the Boundaries Commission to cut off two wards, Foxwood and Micklegate, and place them in Selby constituency.

What are your views on tourism in York?

I'm strongly in favour. It is the only industry we can promote that will push up local wage rates, and in my view the benefits far outweigh the disadvantages. Of course no one likes being stuck in traffic jams during the summer, but that is largely a traffic problem - and should be solved as such. My solution, incidentally, is to substantially increase the subsidy given to the buses and to introduce a completely free service in the city centre. On top of that I have been trying to get the lorries banned from the centre for years. A lorry ban is essential until we get the northern by-pass.

But to return to tourism, do you not think that the rewards from the industry are very unevenly distributed?

Of course - rewards in any industry or company are unevenly distributed, but tourism gives the local economy a broader base and also brings certain benefits to the whole population. For example there has been an enormous increase in the money spent on amenities since York became a tourist centre. I was here in the army just after the war and the place was absolutely dead at night - now there is quite a variety of places to go. The City has also been cleaned up a lot to attract the tourists. It is not just the big hotel owners who benefit from the trade but also the small shop keepers and ordinary people who set up guest houses.

What is your relationship with the City Council?

It used to be extremely good until I started criticising one or two of their ideas. Now I would say the relationship is one of constant vigilance on both sides.

And your relationship with local trade unions and employers?

I have an excellent relationship with the trade unions and with all but one or two of the employers - I'm certainly not going to tell you which ones.

How about the Evening Press?

They've always been very reasonable on the whole. I had one slight disagreement with them during the last election, but nothing very serious. They were a bit peeved when I started doing my Advertiser column, but I had offered to the same thing for them

How would you solve York's housing problem?

Simple, I would just build another 1,500 council houses, and open the waiting list to everybody. I would do it down at Foxwood Lane on the land they are trying to sell off. That's criminal in my opinion.

What about the sale of Council Houses?

I disagree with the policy of selling when there is still a need, and at the moment there are about 1,500 families in York who have that need. But I am not opposed in principle to people owning their own houses.

One complaint about you in York is that you are only interested in people thousands of miles away. That may be parochial but the issues you take up - ethnic minorities, Southern Africa, control of the police, M.P.s and lecturers pay - are certainly not very popular locally. Isn't it a bit far fetched to claim that you speak for York on those issues?

All I can say to that is that I have been returned at every election since 1966, and twice against the swing.

I heard that you were particularly worried at the last election about racists down at the Carriage Works stirring up feelings against you because of your liberal stand on immigration.

Well in a marginal seat you always have to be worried about losing your seat, and it is true that party workers said that they received more complaints about me personally and about my stands on race and immigration than ever before. As for the Carriage Works I went straight down there as soon as I heard there were murmurings and it turned out to be just a very small number of people.

I know you don't like being labelled, but it is surely a fact that while you have moved a little further leftwards recently your constituency party has moved a lot further to the left. I believe that in a recent General Management Committee discussion on Cruise Missiles you made an impassioned plea for accepting them on British soil, and despite putting a lot of your political weight into the debate you were heavily defeated - a rare event. An emergency resolution was also passed asking Callaghan to sack Rogers as Defence spokesman, and the Party is sending a resolution in favour of unilateral nuclear disarmament to the annual conference this year. Are you at all worried by the prospect of re-selection?

No I'm not at all worried. Of course there are divisions of opinion in the Party - there always have been - and it is probably true that there has been a movement to the left in recent years. But the Party has never been a right wing one. It is true that I dislike labels because I think that so often they obscure more than they illuminate, but I would not say that I have moved to the left.

Next Month:- Alex Lyon speaks to the Free Press about the national issues for which he is well-known - immigration, control of the police, and civil liberties. Soon after this year's Labour Party Conference he will also give his candid views on Labour Party reforms.

Live at York University...

THE BLUES BAND & SUPPORT

Central Hall, Monday
Oct.13th.Tickets £3,£2.50,
and £2 from Sound Effect
and the SU shop.

THE ROYAL RASSES & SUPPORT

Friday Oct.20th. Derwent
college.Tickets £2 from
Red Rhino & SU shop.

THE CURE & SUPPORT

Central Hall,Saturday Nov.8.
Tickets £2,£2.50 and £3, from
Red Rhino, Sound Effect & SU shop.

ALCUIN COLLEGE BOP

Friday November 21st. Details
to be announced.

A CERTAIN RATIO,SECTION 25, & THE DURUTTI COLUMN

Vanbrugh College, Friday Oct.17th.
Entrance arrangements to be announced.

BARBARA DICKSON

Central Hall Friday Oct.31.
Tickets £2.75,£3.50 & £4.25 from
Sound Effect and SU shop.

TEAR DROP EXPLODES

Langwith College. Entry on door £1.50.
Friday November 14th.

XTC

December 6th.Central Hall. Tickets
£2,£2.50, & £3.

OPERATION SQUARE-LEG

You may remember a rather large amount of publicity for the army over the last four weeks of September. There were stories of army lorries missing the boat in a rush to stop an imaginary invasion of Western Europe by the Russians, and secret bunkers being opened. Was it just an innocent fling of British patriotism? Or was it a devilish plot of mad Maggie and the Americans? read on.....

It's said that NATO is there to protect us and our free society. In fact it doesn't do either of these things. The presence of Cruise Missiles and US bases - which Mad Maggie wants in Britain would mean that in a nuclear war Britain would be wiped out as the Russians attempted to protect themselves from attack.

With the prospect of the right wing Governor Reagdn winning the US A's presidential election this is genuinely frightening. There is a real possibility that he would start a war to "make the world safe from communism" which would automatically destroy us.

BUNKERS-for who?

But you might say- what about civil defence- the Protect and Survive policy. Simultaneously with the NATO exercise in Germany the civil defence organisation in Britain was activated. The Emergency Centres for North Yorkshire and the whole of the North East were manned. But the bunkers are not for the likes of you however. The State has no plans for bunkers to protect or supplies to maintain any population in wartime. We would just be left to die off slowly. The bunkers only make sure that the government will survive. For example the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire, H.J.Evans will become the No.1 Emergency Officer. The School Meals Officer will become the "Food Supply" Emergency Officer. Naturally the army has bunkers too. The Police will be protected with the NYCC in the bunker under County Hall. Extra money is being spent on civil defence- to make the Emergency HQs snigger, but not a penny is being spent for public protection.

GATHERING OF ARMY VEHICLES IN
FULFORD BARRACKS



The real function of this apparatus is to defeat and threaten working people. In the steel strike the police sent their heavy mob the Police Special Unit, to help out. The emergency apparatus was extended by Heath after the coal strike, and has since been used in the firemen's strike (77-78) and in the road haulage strike in 1979. It involves joint regional and county committees, the police army and government. Meanwhile there are an estimated 13 members of the Special Branch in North Yorkshire to spy on dissidents and Trade Union activity. The North Yorkshire Police have never explained the extent and direction of Special Branch activity.

Welfare or warfare

So, the government can find money for all this but pretends there isn't money for schools, hospitals or social services. In fact they have made a choice between welfare and warfare. In 1982-3 they plan to spend £400 million less on health and £260 million more on defence. What would you rather have? -- 7000 million spent on Trident missiles or better education, houses and hospitals? Look at how the cuts are affecting North Yorkshire:-

- * 158 people sacked from the school meals service
- * understaffing in hospitals and old people's homes

OFFICIAL WARNING

THIS REPORT MAY CONTAIN OFFICIAL SECRETS WHICH IT IS AN OFFENCE TO PASS ON. It is illegal to obtain information on the State and its repression apparatus, but you have no legal right to prevent the State spying on you. If Square-Leg was for real you could be condemned to any punishment (including death) without trial for any so called "subversive" activity - in short civil defence = martial law.

- * £4.6 million cut from the education
- * 50p on council rents and more to come
- * pensioners paying more for home helps and meals on wheels
- * no help for the unemployed and school leavers
- * bus services in York threatened of a programme to defend You - it just helps the government to defend itself. If you don't want to see YOUR rates and taxes wasted, join the local activities of York CND (Box 16, 73 Walmgate or 'phone 26206.) and the York Cuts Campaign (11, Dewsbury Terrace; meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 57, Micklegate.)
- OPPOSE THE CUTS
- OPPOSE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
- YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE
- YOU WON'T GET A SECOND CHANCE!

BASES NEAR YOU.

COUNTY: In County Hall's basement
REGIONAL: off the A19 at Shipton by Benningborough.
ARMY: under Fulford Barracks?

FURTHER INFORMATION:-

Beneath the City Streets
by Peter Laurie, Panther 1979.
Time Out issue March 21-27 1980.
Peace News issues 11.3.77, 28.7.78, 4.4.80, 5.9.80; -available from 8, Elm Avenue, Nottingham, price 25p.
State Research number 8, 19.-60p from 9, Poland St, London W1.
Most of these are also available at York Community Bookshop.

BOMB SHELTERSbut not for you.

Two miles outside Shipton on the A19 is a beautiful spot for a picnic. A clump of trees just set back from the road is a home of the rare wild orchid. It also harbours something much less idyllic.

Here at New Parks, Shipton, behind 7 feet of barbed wire is one of the 17 Sub-Regional Headquarters of Government from which we will be ruled in the event of nuclear war or civil unrest.

This is modern high-technology civil defence - no place for the tin hat volunteer of the blitz.

New Parks started life innocently enough as an RAF spotter station in 1952. Sometime during the early '60's three underground floors were constructed. In 1976, long before the recent nuclear panics, the construction firm Turrieffs started on a three year programme of extensions and renovation. They are still there and don't look like finishing before Christmas.

It is an appropriate moment to peep into the murky bunker, because last weekend as part of Operation Square Leg we believe that the half finished underground offices were occupied during a simulated nuclear attack.

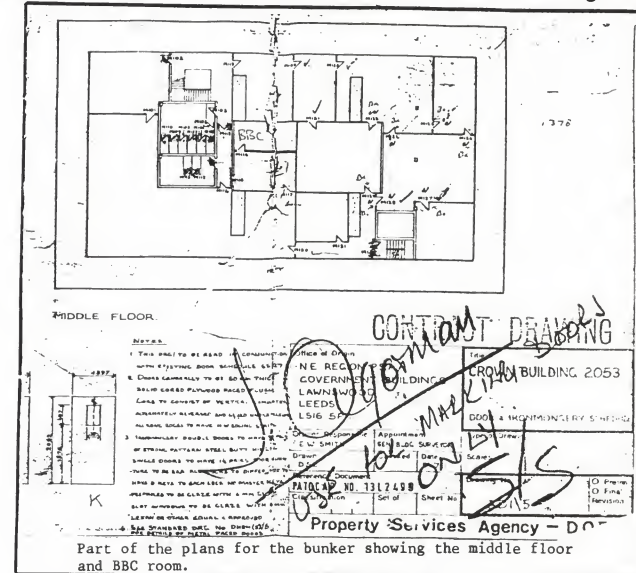
What follows is an exclusive interview with one of the workers on the site.

Can you describe the site?

Visible above the ground is a lodge - the old spotter station - which now has it's own electricity generating room. Also above the ground about 150 yards north is a radio mast and two emergency exits. These lead into the main subterranean complex which is connected to the lodge by an underground tunnel. The complex is on four levels beneath the ground. On the bottom level about 60ft down there are offices, and a plant room for air circulation. The next floor has more offices and an expensively sound-proofed BBC room.

Why do you call it the BBC room?

Well that's what the site agent calls it, so I assume it's the radio room especially reserved for them. The next floor up has kitchen facilities and dormitories and finally there is the newly constructed top-floor built of supposedly explosion proof concrete. This top floor is having an artificial hill built on top of it. All these floors - about



40 yards by 30 yards - are connected by two sets of stairs and separated by about 12 foot of concrete.

How many people will man the station?

I would guess about 150 people. There are about 40 toilets and according to the men who are constructing them they estimate about 3 or 4 per toilet under these conditions.

Can we just make clear what has been added since 1976?

The actual extensions have involved that part of the lodge which houses the generator, the new top floor of the main complex, the emergency exits and the air purifier. The renovations have involved the old lodge and the original 3 floors.

How much do you think all this is costing?

I couldn't guess. Turrieffs have certainly been very inefficient - mainly because of difficulty liaising with the Home Office. We get plans that have virtually no information and so many amendments that we invariably get it all wrong. For example we fitted fire doors on the third floor with only one side of steel cladding. The Clerk of the Works, who represents the Home Office, then decided they wanted two sides of steel so we had to take all the doors off and re-fit them. It's all very timeconsuming and

expensive. We've been fiddling about with the sound proofing for a long time as well.

What do your work-mates think of all this?

Despite the fact that in local terms we are well paid (£100-£200 a week) the morale is very low. The attitude is "if a bomb goes off we certainly aren't going to be down here". They find it difficult to respond to the disorganised and secretive nature of the work - not to mention the dirty conditions underground. I think there has been a deliberate attempt to bring in outside workers and contractors. Most of the 30 workers come from places like Consett, Bradford and Sheffield, and they are paid very generous travelling and lodging expenses. Because it's not their area they feel it doesn't matter - I am about the only worker from the York area.

By the way, have you had to sign the Official Secrets Act?

No, but when I applied for the job from the Job Centre I was told by the site agent that they didn't like to advertise the nature of the work. But despite that the security seems to be negligible. Some friends of mine came up to look at the place a few weeks ago and they just climbed through a hole in the fence and wandered down into the bunker itself. There were people working but nobody challenged them.

PROFITS—make the world go round

Though not exactly a bastion of international capitalism, the city of York has its share of firms and factories involved in the ruthless business of making a profit - generally not for the workers in them but for company shareholders, investors and the banks. YFP thought that we would take a look at a few of our local employers and see how they did last year.

The Yorkshire Evening Press

The *Evening Press* is owned by the *Westminster Press* group which itself is part of the *Pearson Longman* group of companies (see YFP Oct.'75 for more details). This is a vast international group which last year made a profit of £53.7 million - *Westminster Press* contributed over £13 million of that, a lot of which came from advertising profits in provincial papers such as the *Evening Press*.

As you fork out your 10p for the *Evening Press* you will also be glad to know that the *Pearson Longman* group made a £15,700 donation to the Tory party, as well as a £1000 donation to the Centre For Policy Studies, a right wing "think tank" founded by Keith Joseph. Is this what they mean by "press freedom"?



Hotels

One of *Trust House Forte's* 800 hotels is the *Post House* on Tadcaster Road, and showed a profit last year of £68.2 million, of which £45 million was made by the UK hotel section.

The chairman Lord Thorneycroft says in his company that *Trust House Forte* "welcomes the new Government's determination to help the country back to economic soundness and moral integrity...We also welcome the Government's reduction of the heavy burden of taxation which has been borne by our executives in past years".

Hardly suprising as he also happens to be chairman of the Tory party, to which *THF* donated £26,500 last year!



Vickers Ltd.

Vickers has one of its Instrument Divisions on Haxby Road - part of an international group of companies which made a group profit last year of £6.9 million. Chairman, Sir Peter Mathews, blames the engineers strike for damaging profits - blaming workers fighting for a minimum wage of £80 per week for damaging the dividends on his 120,000 share (currently 9.9p per share).

The £35 million compensation *Vickers* has so far received from the nationalisation of its former shipbuilding and aerospace companies in 1977 has helped it to gain control of, er interests in, UK firms making rocket components, industrial and medical equipment and engine chemical manufacture. They also continued the policy of donations to the anti-union organisation, the Economic League - £3,500 last year (see YFP issue No.40).



Rowntree Mackintosh

Rowntree Mackintosh made a healthy £40.4 million profit in 1979. In his report, Sir Donald Barron, blamed "the transport strike and secondary picketing" as seriously affecting UK operations (i.e. profits), and went on to say that "recovery of sales was probably affected by the absence of TV advertising caused by the ITV strike."

Rowntrees "acquired" another Dutch firm, *Nuts Chocoladefabriek BV*, making very profitable sweets for the European market. *Rowntrees* also admitted that the company is looking into whether the new generation of robots can replace human beings on production line work such as filling of chocolate boxes.

Redfearn National Glass



Redfearn's National Glass, one of the major glass manufacturers in the UK made £3.3 profit last year. The chairman said it was a bad year, blaming amongst other things, foreign competition and the lorry drivers strike. It certainly wasn't a good year for the 260 people made redundant as part of Redfearn's "cost reduction programme" and now more redundancies are threatened. However cash was raised to start a new plastics subsidiary, *R.N. Plastics Ltd.*, in Leeds.

Jobs threatened

So considering this is supposed to be a bad time for big business 't doesn't look too bad for some of York's local firms - well at least the directors and shareholders. But it is not all rosy. Firms like *Redfearn's* and *Armstrongs* are in trouble. Despite the human face and the "we're all in it together" attitude put on by companies it means the dole queue when profitability is threatened. But when workers fight redundancies or for better pay and conditions, companies either see this as a mere nuisance threatening their yearly profit, or more dangerously, international groups can shift operations to more profitable countries where labour may not be organised.

Directors attitudes are clear - the chairman of *Trust House Forte* can thank the Government for "tax burdens" on his well paid executives, but says nothing about the fact that his hotel and catering workers are amongst the lowest paid in the country.

Profits could go to re-investment, building schools, hospitals, houses and paying decent wages in safe shift-free jobs, instead of being raked off by large shareholders. New technology could be used to remove tiresome, repetitive or dangerous work and give people a shorter working week, instead of just lowering labour costs (i.e. increasing profits) by giving people the sack. This could happen, but not until we have a society based of NEED rather than PROFIT.

SPEAKOUT !

YORK FREE PRESS HOPES TO PUBLISH REPORTS EACH MONTH ON THE ACTIVITIES OF DIFFERENT LOCAL GROUPS AND CAMPAIGNS

YORK AND RYEDALE ECOLOGY PARTY

York and Ryedale Ecology Party are a recently formed group sharing a common interest and concern for the quality of life - not only in the immediate area, but on a national and global level also. We feel that a concern for ecology and general environmental awareness should be expressed in all spheres of Man's (sic) activities, be they economic or otherwise. How else do we halt the headlong rush towards those illusory utopias, of unlimited wealth and consumption, which finite resources simply do not permit?

Growing fast

The Ecology Party is fast establishing itself as a real political force. Party membership has risen from 500 just before the 1979 General Election to a little over 5,000 at the

time of writing. The Manifesto carries detailed policy outlines on employment, trade, Third World, defence, housing, transport, local and national government, education, land and so forth.

Membership of the Party is (hopefully!) a moral and social commitment, which is only to say that there are jobs to be done, one need not merely subscribe. The subscription at present is £4 a year (£6 for couples). This entitles one to receive the bi-monthly "Econews", and local and national newsletters in the intervening months. One can become affiliated to one's local Branch (in this case the York and Ryedale Ecology Party) before or instead of taking out full membership, for £1 a year. This enables one to attend Branch meetings and participate in just the same way.

Ryedale Ecology Action aims to produce a series of information sheets on various areas of ecological philosophy and practice, and distribute these locally. A leaflet on Noise Pollution has already been produced.

BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR
YOURSELF, AND FOR YOUR
CHILDREN - JOIN US NOW!

For further information contact:
Dave King 70 Welham Road, Norton,
Malton, Tel.5214; or Howard
Griffiths, 53 Park Rd. Norton,
Malton, Tel.4872 or York 28792.

A Worker's Prayer

Thatcher is my sheperd,
I shall not want,
She leadeth me beside still
factories,
She depriveth me of oil,
She guideth me to the path of
unemployment for the party's sake
I fear no evil for thou art
against me,
She anointest my wages with
freezes,
So that my expenses runneth over
my income,
Surely poverty and hard living
shall follow phase three
and I -
shall dwell in a rented house
forever.

"True Stories"

IRISH JOKE

A Republican prisoner in Long Kesh received a letter from his wife in which she said that there was not an able-bodied man left in the village, and that she would therefore have to dig the farm by herself.

Murphy wrote back immediately:
"Dear Mary: for God's sake don't dig up the garden - that's where the guns are."

Murphy's letter was duly intercepted by the military authorities. A few hours later, a lorry load of British soldiers arrived at Murphy's house and dug up the farm from one end to the other. But they found no weapons.

Next day Mary wrote to Murphy telling him what had happened, and asking what she was to do about it.

Murphy replied at once: "Now put the spuds in."

| | | | |
|---|--------|------------------|--------------------|
| REPAIRS | SPARES | HIRE | NEW BIKES TO ORDER |
|  | | | |
| <p>I6 Lawrence St. at walmgate bar telephone 26664</p> <h2>YORK CYCLEWORKS</h2> | | | |
| Registered as a co-op. | | Open 6 days 10-6 | |

NO REDS

A visiting delegation of Soviet trade union leaders was being shown round a car-works near Birmingham.

"What are your impressions of British industry?" asked one of the factory's directors.

"You still have much to learn," answered one of the Russians. "You should study our experience. In our country we work hard. We do not have tea breaks every morning

and afternoon. We do not have strikes and go-slows. Demarcation disputes are unheard of in the Soviet Union. Each Soviet worker gives his best, and would never think of pursuing his own private interests at the expense of the state."

"It's clear from what you say," replied the director, "that you don't have any Communists in your factory to cause trouble."

information and

Items for inclusion in the next issue should reach us by Oct. 31st. We charge only for adverts that involve money—50p for upto 25 words—otherwise they're free. Please let us know of any changes in contact addresses, meeting times etc.—these pages are only as good as the information you give. Donations always welcome!

groups

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Is working for the release of adopted prisoners of conscience. Contact: Cathy Rostas, 5 Sycamore Terrace, Bootham, York. Tel. 33764.

ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP

Campaigns against apartheid in Southern Africa and investigates links between York firms and South Africa. Contact Chris Barrett, 43 Grosvenor Ter. Tel. 39330 or 24906.

ANTI-SEXISM GROUP

Is a mixed group involved in visiting schools to discuss sexism and related topics. Anyone interested in taking part or hosting the group at their school, please contact: Box 8, 73 Walmgate. Tel 37355, 10am to 6pm weekdays.

BICYCLE WORKSHOP

Learn to repair your bike. Open Saturdays 2-5pm at Priory St. Sports & Community Centre.

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY

Telephone 55508.

CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

Produces regular newsheet "View From The Bar". Contact D. Gamston 10 Spen Lane, York, YO1 2BS.

COMMUNITY LAW GROUP

c/o Robert Jenkinson, 7 New Walk Terrace. Tel. 37988.

CYCLISTS' TOURING CLUB

Organises two "runs" each Sunday leaving from York railway station. The longer ride at 8am, the easier at 10am. All welcome without prior notice - bring packed lunch.

CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

York CND meets fortnightly on Tuesdays in the Priory St. Community Centre. All Welcome! Contact Sally McGurn, 14 St. Clement's Grove, Tel. 20606; or write to York CND, Box 16, 73 Walmgate, York, YO1 2TZ.

TRANSSEXUAL PAISING

GROUP MEETINGS

Meets new members. We hope to discuss the limitations imposed on us by the sex roles and how to overcome them. Contact R. French, 6 Norman Street, York.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Contact Paul Rowntree, 12 Fever-sham Crescent, Wigginton Road. Messages can be left at 23961 and 793207.

GAY SWITCHBOARD

York Gay Switchboard is open on Thursdays 7-9p.m. Telephone York 411399 for help, advice and information.

LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS

Meetings held fortnightly on Thursdays at 57 Micklegate. Contact Steve Jeffries, 1 Fourth Avenue, York. Tel. 37327.

LABOUR PARTY - GUILDHALL WARD BRANCH

Meetings on second Monday of each month. For details of political discussion programme contact; Mark Gladwin, 9, St. John's Street. (Tel. 28896)

MUSICIANS COLLECTIVE

Meets Fridays at St. John's College in Oak Room. More info. from Colin Potter. 93 810188

ONE PARENT FAMILIES

Contact Meg Hubby, Community House 10 Priory St. Tel 21133 for advice and information.

SAFE ENERGY GROUP

York's Anti Nuclear Group meets at 8pm every Thursday at Bishophill House, Bishophill Senior.

SOCIALIST CHALLENGE GROUP

For a socialist opposition. For a united Revolutionary Party. Group meets fortnightly. Contact Tony Southall, 2 McHugh Court, Tel. 413258. "Socialist Challenge" is on sale all week at York Community Bookshop and Sats. in Coney St. 11.30 - 3.30pm.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

Meets every Thursday at 8pm. Details from all Socialist Worker sellers.

TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT

Meets fortnightly, 7.30pm Weds. at the Co-op Rooms, 57 Micklegate. Contact Box 4, 73 Walmgate, York.

WORLD DEVELOPMENT MOVEMENT

For details contact the Oxfam Regional Centre, Micklegate.

WILDLIFE GROUP

York Friends of the Earth Wildlife Group will be holding public meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at 8pm in the small room upstairs in the Royal Oak, Goodramgate. All welcome!

YORK AREA ANTI NAZI LEAGUE

Campaigns against the growth of the National Front. Contact Box 1, 73 Walmgate, York.

YORK COMMUNITY BOOKSHOP

Donates part of its profits from second hand books in York. If you have a worthwhile group that needs money, contact York Community Bookshop, 73 Walmgate.

YORK PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

Offers advice and information regarding Social Security Benefits Housing, Employment, Fuel Debts and any other related issues. Open 10am to 2pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Home visits and appointments can be arranged outside of office hours if required.

YORK AND RYEDALE ECOLOGY PARTY

For further information contact: Dave King, 70, Welham Road, Norton, Malton (tel: 5214) or Howard Griffiths, 53, Park Road, Norton, Malton. (tel: 4872)

YORK POETRY SOCIETY

cordially invites visitors and members guests to our meetings at St. John's College, Lord Mayor's Walk, first Friday of each month. More details, contact: Mrs. Pamela Jones, 7, Monk Stray House, Stockton Lane, York.

women

"AIMS": ASSOCIATION TO IMPROVE MATERNITY SERVICES

We are a group of women who are concerned about the provision of maternity services in York and we have formed a local branch of the national AIMS. Meetings are held alternate Tuesday evenings. If you are interested in finding out more about us Telephone 27714 for date of next meeting.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS

For details of clinics in York contact Monkgate Health Centre, 33 Monkgate, York. Tel. 28848. Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday, 6.30-8pm Weds. 10-11am and 1.30-3.30pm.

PREGNANCY TESTING SERVICE

British Pregnancy Advisory Service, Second Floor, 8 The Headrow, Leeds. Open: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.

Saturday 9am-1pm. Tel. Leeds (0532) 443861.

Ring for details of postal testing service. Fee £2.

WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE HEALTH GROUP
Yoga, shiatsu, massage, herbalism, plus anything else people can contribute. Contact Marion, Tel. 38917 between 6-8pm.

children

PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUPS

Runs playgroups for under 5's in many parts of York. Contact Liz Daily, White Cross Lodge, Haxby Road. Telephone 51543.

events

YOUTH ACTION YORK

Works with young people and teenagers. Contact Graham Walker, 10 Priory Street. Tel 21133.

YORK PLAYSPACE GROUP

Helps to organise play activities and campaigns for better play facilities for children in York. Volunteers always needed. For further info. contact: Danny Golding or Mandy Wylde, 10 Priory Street. Telephone 27285 or 21133

housing

ACOMB TENANTS ASSOCIATION

Contact Mrs. McTaggart, 6 Danebury Court, Acomb.

BELL FARM TENANTS ASSOCIATION

Contact Mr. Fillingham, 32 Roche Ave.

BISHOPHILL ACTION GROUP

Contact John Gilham, 46 Victor St.

CLEMENTHORPE ACTION GROUP

Campaigns over housing and local plans affecting the area. Contact P. Carpenter, 26 Vine Street

CLIFTON TENANTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Contact Mr. Forsyth, 153 Kingsway North, Tel. 39991.

FOXWOOD LANE TENANTS ASSOCIATION

Contact Tony Morrissey, 1 Walker Drive.

SCARCROFT ACTION GROUP

Contact Mr. J. Tinker, 8 Park St.

SHELTER SHOP

National Campaign for the Homeless. Charity shop at 87 Micklegate with cratwork, toys, clothes, etc.

help wanted

MUMSHARE

Help needed in the Playspace shop in Gillygate. Also we are always in need of more babies or children's clothes to sell on a 50-50 basis. Mumshare is at 58 Gillygate. Open Monday - Saturday. 10am - 3pm.

AGE CONCERN YORK

We need volunteers to help with our visiting service - one to one visiting of the elderly. We have about 180 people we regularly visit, but there are about 40 people waiting for a visitor. Please contact Ged Goodrich, 10 Priory St. Tel. 27995.

OXFAM SHOPS

To help run the gift shops in Micklegate and Petergate. Contact 75 Micklegate. Tel. 27227.

YORK ASSOCIATION FOR THE CARE AND RESETTLEMENT OF OFFENDERS

Supports offenders and their families. Arranges transport for prison visiting and helps to provide accommodation. YACRO needs volunteers. Contact YACRO, 10 Priory St. Tel. 21133. YORK VOLUNTEERS CENTRE Thinking of doing voluntary work? We can put you in touch with those who need your help. Contact Community House, 10 Priory St. Tel. 21133 or 31698. Open Monday to Friday 9.30am-12pm and Tuesday 6.30-8.00pm.

disablement

DISABLEMENT INCOME GROUP

Contact Maureen Watson, 10 Priory Street. Tel. 21133.

FAMILY HOMES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Contact: Manor Road, Easingwold. Tel. Easingwold 21882.

FLAG

Information centre for handicapped people and groups. Contact M. Watson, 10 Priory St. Tel. 21133.

what's on...

CND EVENTS CND EVENTS CND EVENTS

MONDAY OCTOBER 13TH

Music night at the Barge - folk, blues, rock. Tickets £1.50. 7pm.

OCTOBER 19TH - 26TH

World Disarmament Week. "One World exhibition in the Minster.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24TH

Dance in the De Grey Rooms

SUNDAY OCTOBER 26TH

March and rally in London. Coach leaves Exhibition Square at 6.30am. Contact Peter Evans (Tel. 30858) to book a seat. Cost £7 or £4.50 for claimants.

MONDAY OCTOBER 6TH

Friends of the Earth General Meeting. Speaker: David Coates of York CND on 'Nuclear War and the Prospects for Disarmament.' At 11/13 Bishophill Senior. All welcome.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15TH

Bishophill and Knavesmire Branch Labour Parties disco and social. At the Sub-Aqua Club, Butcher Ter. (off Bishophthorpe Rd.) 8.30-12.00. Tickets available from 57 Micklegate.

NEW EARSWICK & DISTRICT DISABLED SOCIAL CLUB EVENTS

Oct 8th: Talk on "Antiques" with examples by Mr. Wood, proprietor of Robt. Morrison Antiques Ltd.

Oct. 22nd: Harvest Festival. Singing by Strensall Ladies Choir.

Nov 5th: Grand bonfire beatle drive.

Nov. 19th: Ted Levitt Showband.

For further information on the Club please contact the Hon. Sec. Mrs. M. Joliands, 16 Whiteland Cottages, Haxby, York. Transport to meetings available.

LIVE MUSIC LIVE MUSIC LIVE MUSIC

Oct 3rd: Sema 4. Wiggington

Community Hall.

Oct 3rd: The Jam, Queens Hall, Leeds.

Oct 3rd: No Maps On My Taps - Arts Centre.

Oct 5th: Echo & The Bunnymen. F. Club, Leeds.

Oct 7th: Tour De Force (John Cooper Clark & Pauline Murray) Leeds Apollo.

Oct 13th: The Blues Band. Univ. Central Hall.

Oct 17th: A Certain Ration, Section 25, The Durutti Column. Vanbrugh Col. Univ.

Oct 20th: Chords, Assembly Rooms.

Oct 24th: Royal Rassess, Derwent Col.

Oct 29th: UK Subs - somewhere in York.

Nov 8th: The Cure. Central Hall

ARTS CENTRE YORK

TEL. 27129

OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER OCTOBER

1st: "La Boheme" concert with Yorks. Chamber Opera. 8pm.

3-4th: No Maps On My Taps. Tap dancing from USA. 8pm.

4th: Zippo the Clown. Children's theatre. 2.30pm.

6th: Dynamite Twins. Folk. 8.30pm.

7th: Tough Tenors. Don Weller et al. Jazz. 8pm.

9th: Sympathy For The Devil. Film. 8pm.

10-11: "Dialogue Between a Prostitute and one of Her Clients". Monstrous Regiment Theatre Co. 8pm.

13th: Bert's Boogie Band. Jazz. 8.30

14-16: "Rien Ne Va Plus" Pip Simmons Theatre Group. 8pm.

17-18 "Jack London: The Man From Edens Grove" The Labor Theatre. (USA). 8pm.

20th: Xpress & Sema 4. Rock. 8.30pm.

21st: Eberhard Weber. Jazz. 8pm.

22nd: York Independent Film. Meeting & film. 8pm.

23-25: "Intimate Hopes & Terrors" Moving Picture Mime show. 8pm.

27th: K.K. Rock. 8.30pm.

28th: "The Clone Show" Forkbeard & Fantasy Theatre Company. 8pm.

29th: Geraldine Monk & Bob Cobbing. Poetry. 8pm.

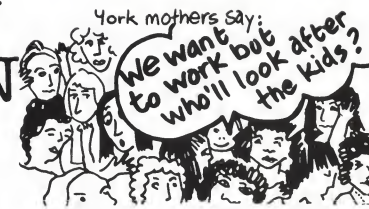
30th-

Nov 1: "One Big Blow" by John Burrows. 7:84 Theatre Co. 8pm.

NURSERY CAMPAIGN

Well that was what we hoped would be the result of the two public meetings held at Priory Street Sports and Community Centre on Tuesday September 16th. Although a small group of people had been meeting since the start of this year under the name of 'York Nursery Campaign' we had no illusions about who we represented. After this attempt to interest more people in the project of a coordinated town-wide campaign I think we must realise that it will take a lot of hard work to make the link between the huge need for nursery places we know exists and the ideal of the sort of nursery service we would like to see.

I think the meetings on the 16th will have given everyone who was there some ideas about where to start this work. Particularly helpful were suggestions made by Tim who came over from Chapeltown Community Nursery in Leeds. As well as giving a lot of practical advice from their seven years experience, they reinforced our view of the importance of campaigning for a better nursery service at the same time as trying to set up more nurseries. In Chapeltown,



help from the Leeds City Council has only been won by constant pressure. I feel sure now that the way to start a nursery campaign in York is to get on with trying to start a nursery and develop the contacts made during this effort.

WHY A NURSERY CAMPAIGN ?

A nursery campaign would be a way for people to exchange ideas of setting up and working in nurseries. It should also provide a constant monitor of the need for nurseries and the existing provisions. The ideal of a service that has a place for every child that wants one, whether full or part time, in a nursery that gives the care and attention that parents would want, is not unattainable. We should challenge the priorities that have kept the care of under-fives so appallingly under-supported by government and constantly pushed back onto women.

SETTING UP A NURSERY

Of course we can only base a campaign on the experience gained through ACTION, so we must press on with our plan to start a nursery. How many under-fives? What facilities exist already? Who uses them? Accurate knowledge is essential when dealing with local government departments, social services or applying for funds. We had already decided to concentrate our efforts on the Scarcroft area so now we must research these questions and use the information to argue the case for a nursery here.

We also need to find a suitable building and get funding for the nursery - both these things we have started looking into. If you are interested in helping to set up a nursery in the Scarcroft area, or in the campaigning for a better nursery service, or would like to research statistics in your own area, or know of a suitable building, or an unused pile of money... we'd love to hear from you. Our address is Y.N.C. Box 15 73 Walmgate, York, and our next meeting is at 1pm. on Thurs. 2nd October at 16 Dove Street and we hope lots of people will be coming for their first time.

YORK FREE PRESS



Is a radical community newspaper for York. It was set up to provide a voice for ordinary people and community groups in York, and to publish news and views ignored by the established press.

YFP is non profit making and is produced by local people in their spare time - but we need to charge for the paper to cover printing costs. All decisions about the paper are made democratically at our regular meetings which anyone can attend. They take place most Mondays. Contact the number below for details.

YFP always needs stories, letters, inside information, and details of forthcoming events.

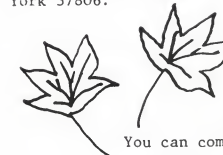
Contact YFP at Box 2, 73 Walmgate. Telephone 37806.



We are moving...

We will be printing as usual during this period though there may be a few days delay around the 10th with the installation of the presses.

Our phone number will be the same - York 37806.



You can come in and use our facilities to produce your own leaflets and posters. We can help you with advice and provide the necessary layout materials for a very small charge. Please phone us to book!

The Basement
57, Micklegate

If you need LEAFLETS, POSTERS, BOOKLETS or LETTERHEADS for your group this autumn - COME TO OPEN ROAD PRINTING CO-OP